



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Temple City Man Charged with Sexually Assaulting Girls

A 49-year-old man accused of sexually abusing three teenage girls in El Monte was charged today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office announced.

Derick Lee (dob 7/27/65) of Temple City has been charged with six counts: two counts of lewd act upon a child and one count each of sexual penetration by foreign object; sexual penetration by foreign object – minor victim over 14; child molesting; and sexual battery in case KA109622.

The defendant was scheduled to be arraigned today, but the court appearance was continued to May 19 in Department F of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

Prosecutors said at the time of the crimes, Lee was a martial arts instructor at Elite Kung Fu in El Monte.

Between July 2014 and April 2015, Lee reportedly sexually assaulted and inappropriately touched three teenage girls who were his students.

Last month, one of the victims revealed Lee had allegedly sexually abused her. Authorities began an investigation into her account and learned there were two additional victims.

Lee was subsequently arrested on April 30 and has remained in custody since his apprehension.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 10 years and eight months in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the El Monte Police Department.

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**About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.